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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, For 90 years, WILL-AM, WILL-FM, and WILL-TV have provided a lifeline of information to people across much of the State of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Public radio station WILL-AM (then known as WRM) aired its first official broadcast on April 6, 1922, when radio was new and experimental, using one 50-watt vacuum tube in a University of Illinois electrical engineering laboratory; and

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WHEREAS, In 1941, WILL-FM (then known as WIUC) signed on with its first FM license to the University of Illinois, and ever since has offered Illinois listeners music and news to nourish the spirit and mind; and

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WHEREAS, In 1955, WILL-TV went on the air, broadcasting from makeshift studios under the stands of the University of Illinois' Memorial Stadium, preserving the history, culture, and stories of Illinois residents, and engaging the children of the State with educational programming; and

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WHEREAS, In 1974, WILL established the membership organization known as Friends of WILL; today, donations from supporters provide strong local financial backing, making up 42% of the public media organization's operating revenue; and

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1 WHEREAS, In 2009, WILL Radio-TV-Online became Illinois
2 Public Media, while retaining the individual identities of
3 WILL-AM, WILL-FM, and WILL-TV, to better reflect its expansion
4 into the community and the Internet; and

5 WHEREAS, In 2012, Illinois Public Media is still true to
6 its original spirit of innovation and its original mission of
7 service; today, it makes use of new technology to bring the
8 people of the State of Illinois stories about their communities
9 and their world; Illinois Public Media helps students learn
10 core subjects using digital media; and Illinois Public Media
11 gives voice to local arts, provides knowledge and new ideas,
12 and assists in local community needs; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we congratulate everyone involved with Illinois Public Media on
16 the occasion of the 90th anniversary and wish them the best in
17 their continued endeavors to bring quality programming to the
18 State of Illinois; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to Illinois Public Media as a symbol of our respect
21 and esteem.